Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

The President's Daily Brief

30 May 1972

18

Top Secret 25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

30 May 1972

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet media treatment of the President's television address shows that Moscow considers a number of topics to be sensitive. *(Page 1)*

Fighting has been heavy around Kontum, and there may be more fresh enemy troops moving into South Vietnam across the DMZ. [redacted] *(Page 2)*

25X1
25X1
25X1

The military situation in Laos is reviewed on *Page 3*.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

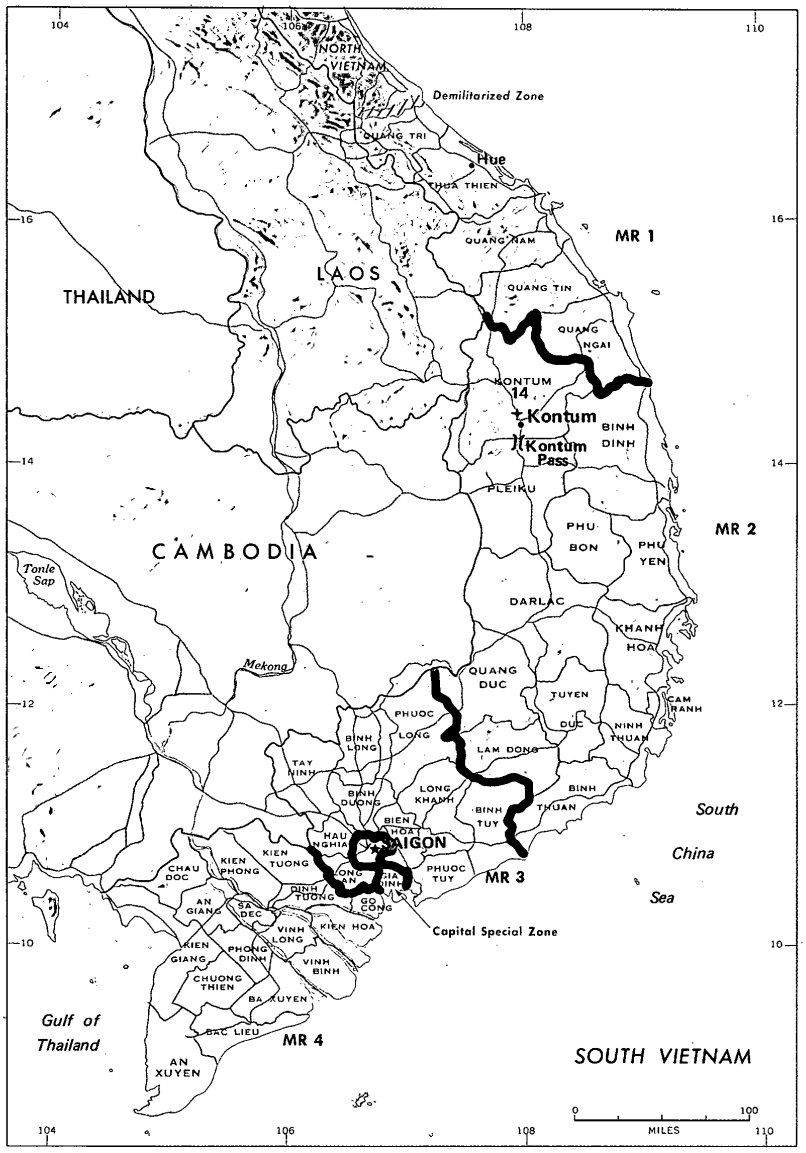
Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

USSR

Despite favorable coverage of the strategic arms limitation agreement in yesterday's Pravda, the Soviet press has yet to publish many of the points included in President Nixon's television address. Among the topics the Soviets appear to consider sensitive are the President's challenge to compete in producing better lives for the Soviet and American people; his warning that there would be only losers in an unchecked arms race; and his references to reductions of the US armed forces, to the right of each nation to choose its own political system, and to US determination to defend its liberty. Foreign policy considerations may have weighed in the omission of other passages, such as the President's discussion of the responsibilities of great powers vis-a-vis smaller nations.

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9



553156 5-72

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

VIETNAM

Fighting has remained heavy around Kontum City. Government forces began counterattacking on Sunday, and late reports indicate the South Vietnamese have cleared some enemy pockets. Communist units, however, still hold territory in the northern and eastern parts of the city. The airfield remains closed, but supplies are being airdropped and brought in by helicopter.

South of Kontum, government forces so far have been unable to reopen Route 14 through the Kontum Pass. The recent shifts of major elements of the North Vietnamese 320th Division and an artillery unit toward the pass indicate the enemy is determined to try to keep Kontum City isolated.

There are signs that more fresh troops from the North Vietnamese 325th Division have moved across the DMZ. [redacted] 25X1

25X1

25X1

* * *

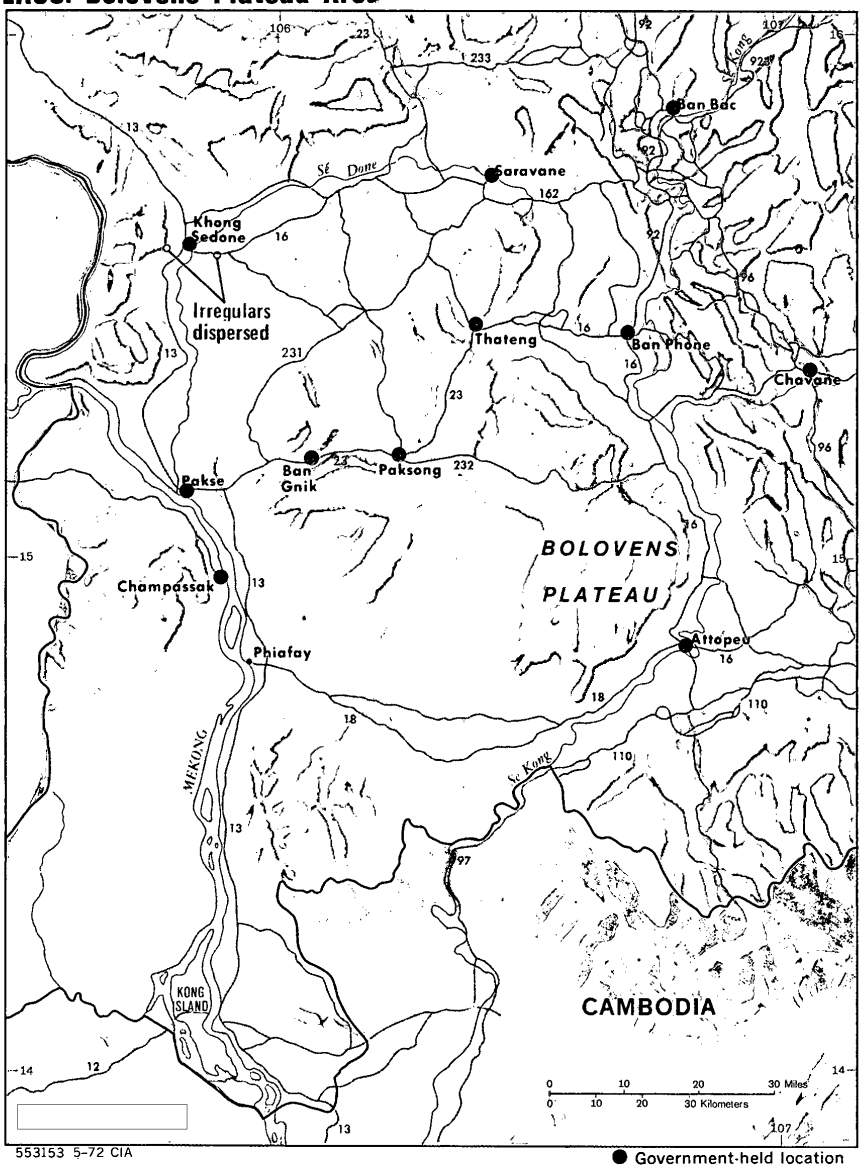
25X1

25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

LAOS: Bolovens Plateau Area



553153 5-72 CIA

● Government-held location
● Communist-held location

25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

LAOS

Communist forces have dispersed government units attempting to retake Khong Sedone, a provincial capital 30 miles north of Pakse, and may be planning to increase pressure near Pakse itself. Intercepts indicate that the North Vietnamese have been reconnoitering government defenses between Pakse and the forward government position at the junction of Routes 23 and 231. [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] five enemy infantry battalions plus some artillery and armor units are to attack the junction.

> *Communist attacks west of the Bolovens Plateau are most likely intended to tie down government units and to forestall any government campaign to recapture the Plateau during the rainy season. We continue to believe that an all-out enemy attack on Pakse is unlikely at this time.*

In north Laos, Vang Pao's irregulars have made some progress in their effort to recapture the hills southwest of the Plaine des Jarres. Advance units of one irregular task force have moved to within three miles of Phou Pha Sai, a strategic high point overlooking the southern Plaine. Another force has moved eastward from Sam Thong to occupy several other high points. Elements of several North Vietnamese regiments remain in this general area, however [redacted] 25X1

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9

Top Secret

Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2016/06/14 : CIA-RDP79T00936A010700270001-9